ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and system is disclosed for automatically discovering Cisco Discovery Protocol (CDP) nodes a network in real time. The discover process transmits a signal from a network manager to a first CDP node of the network. The signal requests information regarding additional CDP nodes known to the first node. The network manger receives a response is that identifies additional CDP nodes known to the first CDP node. The transmitting and receiving steps are then repeated for each additional CDP node identified. A list containing information of all identified nodes is then stored.